



Year 1 Spring Newsletter

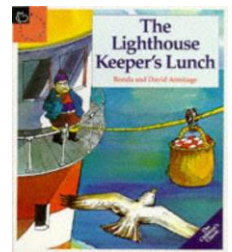
January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year! We have planned a curriculum full of creativity, enthusiasm and fun which we know the children will thoroughly enjoy. We would like to keep you informed of the activities and topics we hope to cover this term.

Mathematics:

Using our topic of the Lighthouse Keeper as inspiration, we will compare the weight of different picnic baskets for the Lighthouse Keeper's lunch. When learning about division we will be relating word problems to the pesky seagulls sharing Mr Grinling's lunch.



We will be comparing picnic drinks in our capacity unit where we will learn how to measure accurately with an array of liquids. We will then use these drinks to sell at our Lighthouse Lunch applying our addition and subtractions skills when working with money.

When learning about fractions later in the spring term, we will be immersing the children in 'real-life' fraction problems by presenting them with a range of tasty treats where they must decide which fraction of the treat they would prefer. We will be slicing into tasty treats to represent halves, quarters and thirds.

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/counting>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ik_-OAgzD-8

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/Interactive.aspx?cat=14>



English:

During 'Read, Write Inc' sessions the children will be reading a wide variety of texts to develop their blending, decoding and fluency skills. We will be devising engaging writing activities based on these texts to enthuse and inspire our mini authors.

Additionally, we will be focusing upon the text, 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch'. We will begin with character descriptions - using exciting vocabulary to portray the character's personality. We look forward to retelling this classic tale but with a twist of our own. Through the use of drama, video clips and powerful images we will bring this story to life once again in the classroom.



We will continue to use our Big Write sessions to develop and extend our learning in RWI by writing at length. This is a fantastic opportunity for the children to write in different genres focusing upon grammar, composition and vocabulary.

Faith

Forgiveness

Respect

Truth

Love

Tenacity

Serenity

In reading we will be using exciting and interesting texts whilst focusing upon key skills of retrieval, inference and evaluation. The children will be completing a wide range of reading activities during these sessions in a carousel style. Each activity the pupils will be completing has been specifically designed to develop their comprehension and also encourage reading for enjoyment. The children will get an opportunity each week to read for pleasure in their classroom's reading area which has been created as an inviting space to enhance their independent reading time.

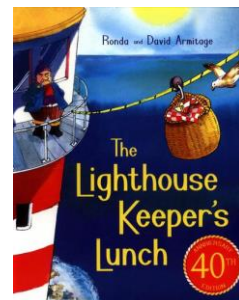
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/literacy/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xNgh3Q58QoI>

<http://www.funenglishgames.com/grammargames/verbnounadjective>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/Interactive.aspx?cat=43>

Topic: This term we will be explorers, discovering geographical information about our coastlines! We will be locating the various lighthouses that can be found across the UK. Using secondary sources, we will gather information to plot these locations on our own maps. Incorporating ICT we will use the laptops, transforming our classrooms into research labs as we ponder challenging questions that require us to search, locate and find geographical evidence to create our own fact files and reports. We will become designers as we plan and create our own lighthouses.



<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zs9k7ty/resources/1>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zy89wmn>

Science:

Everyday materials and their properties will be the focus of our work in science this term. The classroom will be transformed into a science laboratory and the children will carry out experiments to investigate the properties of different materials. We will investigate the choices made by Mrs Grinling, from the Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch, and use this as inspiration to investigate. We will also continue to look at the changing seasons. You could use the link provided to complete some simple investigations at home:



<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/experiments.html>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/Interactive.aspx?cat=63>

Computing:

We will become mini authors in our first unit by creating reports that we will present. We will use a camera to film and capture images which we will then import to the computer. We will learn how to edit clips and images to create a sequence so our reports can be used by our friends and the teachers too. We will then continue to focus upon digital imagery, copying, pasting and organising photos into groups according to different rules. We will use Safe Search to find images linked to our topics.

PE: We will be working on our co-ordination and concentration, using batons during relay races outdoors. We will consider ways in which we can throw a ball to our partners and the best way to hold a bat. There will be lots of team work and partner work involved. During indoor PE we will be using our rainbow parachute; we will travel under the parachute in different ways and pass equipment to one another, this again involves team work and good communication! It is important for children to wear appropriate footwear (plimsolls/trainers) for PE lessons to ensure maximum safety. PE days for each class are listed below – it may be worth considering the

Faith

Forgiveness

Respect

Truth

Love

Tenacity

Serenity

uniform your child wears on this day (trousers for girls, polo shirts etc). As the weather is now cooler, children will also need a tracksuit in their kit for their outdoor PE lesson.

RE: We will be visiting St Saviour's church for a special workshop about Easter where we will learn about the signs and symbols of this special time. We will learn that the Easter story explores the theme of change for the friends of Jesus and that the changing liturgical colours remind Christians of the change from sadness to joy at Easter.



<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/easter/easterstory.aspx>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/stories/lets-celebrate-easterperformance>



Music:

Our music lessons will focus on beat and rhythm. We will be exploring the sounds of the sea and incorporating these into our lessons. We will play some tuned and un-tuned musical instruments. The children will listen carefully for beat and rhythm, and will learn to write some music of their own. We will be using our voices expressively and creatively by singing songs, speaking chants and rhymes.

PSHE: In our personal, social and health education, we will be discussing ways in which we listen to other people's opinions and how to play and work co-operatively, including strategies to resolve simple arguments through negotiation. We will be using drama strategies to bring scenarios to life and help empathise with others.

Homework: In year 1, homework is set online for Maths and English. It is set on Education City every Thursday. We would appreciate your support in encouraging your child to complete their homework to further consolidate their learning of the lessons throughout the week. They should also read **every day** at home with an adult and the book should be read more than once.

It is very important that when reading with your child at home, comprehension questions are asked. Here are some examples below: Who was your favourite character? Why? What do you think will happen next? Why did the character behave in that way? Which word tells you how the character was feeling? Can you describe the character's feelings using a different word?

Please complete the reading record by dating, signing and making a comment. If your child has finished reading their home reader, you could also read magazines, comics and other books at home with them and jot this down in their journal too.

Thank you for your support,

Ms Kerry Munden (Head teacher)

Mr Sam Silva (Year 1 Willow Class Teacher)

Miss Lenita Kellman (Year 1 Elm Class Teacher)